

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Patty Madry

## Schools to hold crisis drill

BY EARLINE WHITE  
The Chowan Herald

During the week of July 25-30, state and local emergency services will undertake, in conjunction with the elementary school, the first large-scale school crisis drill ever attempted in Chowan County.

As part of the crisis drill, Highway Patrol, Wildlife Officers, Marine Patrol, EMS, State Bureau of Investigations, Edenton Police Department, Chowan County Sheriff's Office, Edenton and Center Hill Fire Departments, and Chowan Hospital will team up with teachers and administrators of D. F. Walker School. The drill aims to prepare all parties involved in the event of an emergency involving the school, staff and students.

"We are conducting this drill so that all of the emergency staff in the area will know the appropriate steps to take, in coordination with each other, in case a crisis takes place," Investigator Dwayne Goodwin said. "The different agencies will walk through the drill together—it will be a learning experience for everyone involved."

This school crisis drill will fulfill the requirements for several programs in the area. Goodwin and Andy Bunch of the Chowan County Sheriff's Office, two certified rapid deployment instructors in eastern NC will lead the efforts.

"The schools already are trained in what they need to do in any situation, be it a shooting, a tornado, hurricane or evacuation drill," Goodwin said. "With this drill we want to be sure that everyone knows how to react during the situation so that they will be no lag time or confusion as to any individual's particular part."

"This is just an example of how Emergency Management

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## Edenton set to grow with annexation of Wharf Landing

BY SEAN JACKSON  
The Chowan Herald

The Town of Edenton could soon contain a new addition of condos, a boat marina, and a waterfront restaurant if the Town Council agrees to annex Wharf Landing next month.

During its July 12 regular meeting, council unanimously approved a certificate of sufficiency for the voluntary annexation request submitted by the developers of the project located on the Chowan River just west of the town limits.

"The next step would be ... for you to conduct a public hearing,"

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton told council.

That hearing would be held Aug. 9, council's next regular session.

Paul Waff, a developer of the site, has said that Wharf Landing will add about 90 dwelling units — via upscale condos — in addition to the 100 boat slips at the marina. In addition, a 15-room inn and a restaurant are also planned for the development.

Each unit is slated to have 1,500 square feet of living space, three bedrooms, and two-and-a-half baths.

"The people that we have coming

See LANDING On Page 3-A



The town council will conduct a public hearing Aug. 9 concerning voluntary annexation of Wharf Landing (at left).

Staff photo by Sean Jackson



Rennie Harrington-Jones

## Elections director steps down

BY SEAN JACKSON  
The Chowan Herald

Chowan County Board of Election Rennie Harrington-Jones is stepping down from her post July 29 to take a job in the Bertie County Schools system.

Harrington-Jones, 23, and her husband Warren Jones are both natives of Bertie County, and the job switch will allow them to both be closer to home, she said Tuesday.

Harrington-Jones' tenure as elections director — a job she took last July — included the much-hyped 2004 local, state and federal elections.

"I've enjoyed my time (working) here in Chowan County," the Lewiston native said. "Working in the elections process has helped me a lot."

She thanked her board members for their guidance through the delayed primary, and general, elections last year. Harrington-Jones and her husband, a Merry Hill na-

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Roundtable discussion touts strengths, opportunities

## Local economy responsive to changing environment

BY EARLINE WHITE  
The Chowan Herald

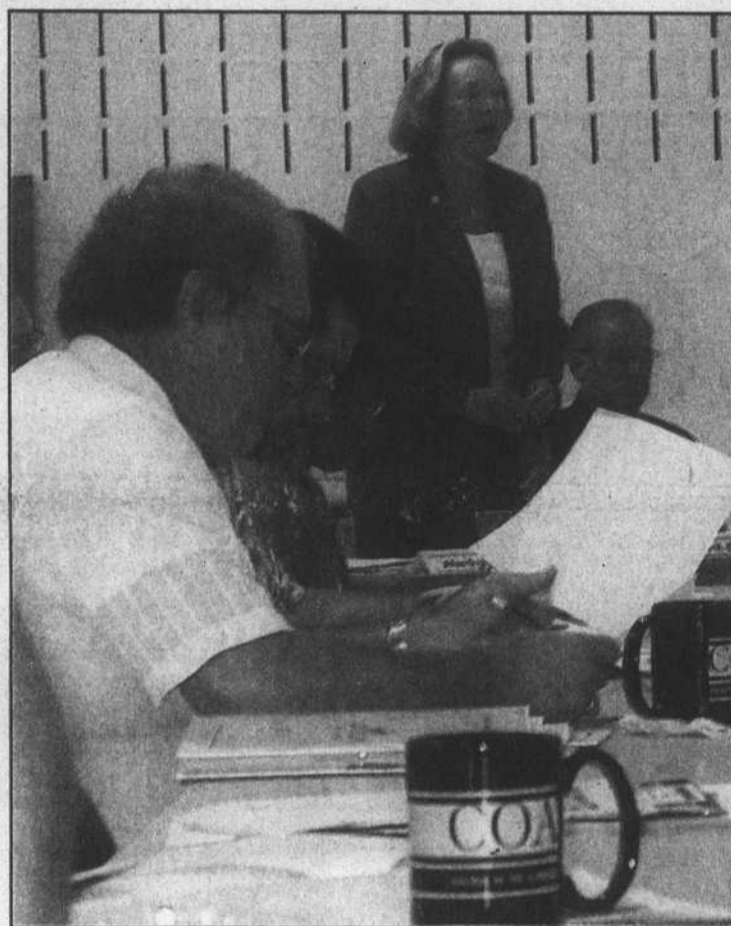
Economic growth and untapped potential in Chowan County was the focal point of the round table discussion held at the Edenton-Chowan Campus Culinary Arts Center last Thursday.

Business leaders and government officials reviewed Chowan's economic tract, acknowledging the successes and proposing options on furthering advances.

Win Dale, Chamber of Commerce President opened the session, welcoming all in attendance.

Among those who presented information at the session were Rick Watson, CEO of North Carolina's Northeast Partnership, Inc; Cliff Copeland, County Manager; Anne-Marie Knighton, Town Manager; Richard Bunch, Executive Director of the Chowan County Chamber of Commerce; Lynne Bunch, President of COA; and Allan Smith, Superintendent of Edenton-Chowan Schools.

According to the presentations, over the past twenty years Chowan County has lost several of its biggest employers including Edenton Cotton Mill and Pelikan Corporation. In its place has emerged the boat building industry including Albemarle Boats, Regulator Marine and Carolina Classic. Richard Bunch said that he hopes to continue recruiting and retain the boat building industry in the area (and



Staff photo by Earline White

COA President Lynne Bunch addresses those attending a roundtable discussion last Thursday that focused on economic growth and the untapped potential to be found in Chowan County.

the existing industries that support them) while attracting necessary sectors like technology, and the Broad Street Software Company for example that was brought to the area by NCNE Partnership, to further Chowan's economic development.

While much of the nation

has turned away from the textile industry, Chowan County is still going strong with George C. Moore employing over 200 people. To date the largest employers in the county are Chowan Hospital and Edenton-Chowan Schools

See ECONOMY Page 2-A



Judge Terrence Boyle

## Navy to take OLF case to Richmond

BY SEAN JACKSON  
The Chowan Herald

The U.S. Navy is set to plead its case to move ahead with building a landing field in northeast North Carolina before a federal appeals court in Richmond, Va. today.

The hearing will be before the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, and will likely focus on a permanent injunction barring work on the 30,000-acre site in Beaufort and Washington counties handed down by a federal district court judge in February.

U.S. District Court Judge Terrence Boyle ruled July 13 that the Navy wrongly stated that the jets would have no significant impact on wildlife or Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge itself.

The Navy has said it fol-

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Local youths are 'The Chosen Ones'

## Gas Company gets local support

Move would make gas service 'economically viable'

From Staff Reports

Officials with a non-profit agency that has helped expand natural gas service into northeast North Carolina held a public hearing in Edenton on July 12 to pitch giving control of that gas line to Piedmont Natural Gas.

Piedmont has petitioned the state Utilities Commission for approval to take over control of EasternNC, the company that currently co-owns the line with the Albemarle Pamlico Economic Development Cor-



Copeland

Chowan County Manager Cliff Copeland, APEC chairman, said the move was a necessary one.

"APEC was never intended to be actively involved in the actual operation of a gas company," Copeland said during

poration, which represents the 14 counties in the northeast that recently received some gas service.

the hearing.

Edenton Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton also supports Piedmont taking control of gas services in the northeast.

"I told the Commission that the region is on the verge of unprecedented growth, and that growth would certainly go a long way towards making the gas venture more economically viable," Knighton told The Chowan Herald last week.

"Natural gas is an impor-

See SUPPORT On Page 2-A

## Know signs of dehydration, A2

### Heat wave taking toll

From staff reports

The summer heat wave has hit Chowan County full force with the heat index climbing into triple digits. Currently, the Chowan County Department of Social Services is taking applications for the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) to help those without air conditioning.

Residents communitywide are being urged to avoid becoming dehydrated.

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Staff photo by Earline White

Louis Griffin has found an innovative way to keep cool this week, using an umbrella to cover the motorized scooter in which he gets around town.

COLONIAL INVITATIONAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT  
Edenton, North Carolina August 5-7, 2005  
Deadline: Friday, July 29 5:00  
Call 482-8595 for more information